

Brooks

Ecological

Grounded advice



Ecological Design Strategy

Broadstone Farm, Ingbirchworth

R-4129-03.1

September 2019

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Written by:	Peter Brooks BSc (Hons), MA, MCIEEM, CEnv Managing Director
Technical review:	Rob Weston BSc MSc MCIEEM Technical Director
QA review:	Micah Duckworth BA MSc CSJK Biodiversity Manager
Approved for issue	Peter Brooks BSc (Hons), MA, MCIEEM, CEnv Managing Director
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The information which we have prepared and provided is true and has been prepared and provided in accordance with the CIEEM's Code of Professional Conduct. We confirm that the opinions expressed are our true and professional bona fide opinions. This report does not constitute legal advice.

Unit A, 1 Station Road, Guiseley, Leeds, LS20 8BX
 Phone: 01943 884451
 01943 879129
www.brooks-ecological.co.uk
 Registered in England Number 5351418



Introduction

Ecological Design strategies are referenced in BS42020 Biodiversity Code of Practice for Planning and Development. The purpose of an EDS is to outline the measures to be incorporated into development proposals to overcome potential conflicts with biodiversity. EDS's may be sufficient to satisfy the needs of a Local Planning Authority or may be used as the outline of a more detailed delivery document such as a Biodiversity Management Plan.

This Ecological Design Strategy sets out the principals to be incorporated in the landscaping and management of this site to maximise its potential to retain bird species found to use it during the Ornithological surveys carried out by Brooks Ecological.

Key species found for which this plan seeks to provide for include:

- Curlew
- Snipe
- Lapwing
- Meadow pipit
- Skylark
- Grey partridge
- Linnet
- Mallard

The proposals

The proposed scheme is presented below which incorporates horse grazing, hay/silage cropping, a permanent gallop and horse jumping areas.





Site Boundary

access

Fence

Habitats

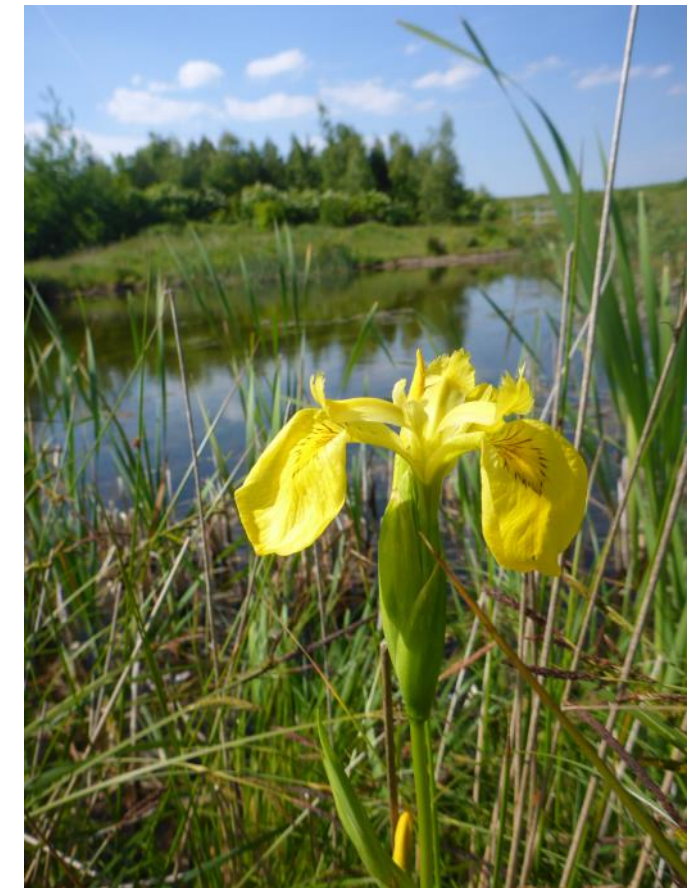
Ditch and scrapes

Pond

Grassland uncut during the breeding season

Native Hedge

Rush pasture and swales



Pond designed to make dabbling/loafing and nesting habitat for mallard.. Margins with rushes and emergent vegetation for wader cover and reed bunting habitat

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access

--- Fence

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Ditch and scrapes

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Native Hedge

Rush pasture and swales

0 50 100 m

Creating ditch/scrape habitat

Areas of shallow pooling water are beneficial to snipe and other waders as additional sources of aquatic invertebrate prey. The proposed habitat is likely to attract wetland birds like curlew and snipe

The wetland scape area will be made by excavating and removing the top soils.

The ditch with a complex edge profile will be formed which fills with water over winter and holds it through until early summer in most years. It will be designed to accommodate an average winter water depth of circa 0.5m but have shallow margins.

The profile will be gentle enough to still permit cutting with agricultural machinery where desirable but sufficiently varied to create the habitat gradient of dry to seasonally wet.

Formation would be done using load spreading excavators to minimise compaction of the retained soil horizon. Excess soils would be removed from site.

